

REMARKS

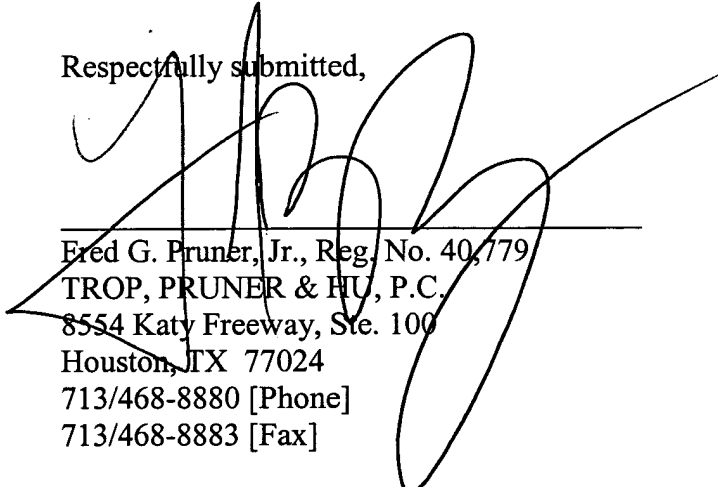
This Preliminary Amendment is being filed with a Request for Continued Examination. Applicant submits that the previous § 112, first paragraph rejections have been overcome for at least the reason that the "automatically determining" language has been removed from the claims. Additionally, neither Arai nor Yoshizawa teaches or suggests executing a software routine to determine a maximum number of memory devices that can be supported per memory bus channel of the computer system (claim 41), instructions to cause a programmable control device to determine whether a maximum number of device sockets that can be supported by a memory controller of the computer system, or a configuration routine that determines a maximum number of memory devices that can be supported per memory bus channel of a computer system. Furthermore, Arai fails to supply the missing claim limitations, as these limitations do not necessarily flow from Arai.

Claims 42-51, 53, 55-60, 63-65 and 67 are patentable for at least the reason that these claims depend from allowable claims.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504 (MCT.0102US).

Respectfully submitted,

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